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Letter dated 11 June 2012 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council

I refer to the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) and to Security Council resolution 2000 (2011), and have the honour to convey to you a letter from His Excellency Jeannot Kouadio-Ahoussou, Prime Minister of Côte d'Ivoire (see annex).

The letter dated 25 May 2012 requests the extension of the mandate of UNOCI in all its aspects beyond 31 July 2012, so as to ensure the successful conduct of local elections which are expected to take place during the last quarter of 2012. Previous Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 1933 (2010) and 2000 (2011), have mandated UNOCI to support the organization and conduct of open, free and fair presidential and legislative elections.

I would be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) BAN Ki-moon

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Annex

Letter dated 25 May 2012 from the Prime Minister of Côte d'Ivoire to the Secretary-General

[Original: French]

By its resolution 1528 (2004) of 27 February 2004 on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire, the United Nations Security Council authorized the deployment of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI), under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations.

Subsequent Security Council resolutions concerning the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire, in particular resolution 2000 (2011) of 27 July 2011, specified the legal framework for United Nations electoral assistance in Côte d'Ivoire.

This assistance and the support of the international community have allowed our country to conduct successful elections and emerge from the crisis, with the holding of the elections for President of the Republic in 2010 and for deputies to the National Assembly in 2011.

Thus, Côte d'Ivoire has recently reached a decisive stage in the process of calming the sociopolitical environment and normalization of its institutions.

It is important, however, to continue and complete the normalization and institutional stabilization process by putting into place all of the decentralized bodies for the management of State affairs by holding local elections.

In accordance with the relevant provisions of our country's Constitution and Electoral Code, the Independent Electoral Commission will very shortly begin preparations, in agreement with the Government, for the election of municipal councillors and regional councillors, planned for the last quarter of 2012.

All Ivorian political groups and civil society organizations recognize that holding these local elections will provide a powerful catalyst in the national reconciliation process that is under way.

In that regard, and in the spirit of consolidation of the fledgling Ivorian democracy, on 27 and 28 April 2012 at Grand-Bassam in Côte d'Ivoire, the Government called a meeting with the major opposition political parties and groups. This meeting enabled the country's political leaders to establish an ongoing republican dialogue which will have the effect of expanding and accelerating the national reconciliation process in concrete ways.

The launching of this republican dialogue should help, furthermore, to ensure the participation of groups of all political leanings in the forthcoming local elections, thereby strengthening their inclusiveness.

In order to hold these local elections, and based on the measures taken by the Government, the Independent Electoral Commission and UNOCI at the time of the presidential and legislative elections, the necessary logistical, financial and security resources must be mobilized.

However, after emerging from the grave post-election crisis it experienced in 2011, and despite the significant progress noted in recent months in various

socioeconomic sectors, the financial and security situation in Côte d'Ivoire remains fragile.

Therefore, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire hereby requests the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI), which is due to expire on 31 July 2012, in all its aspects — political, technical (legal assistance, logistics and human resources) and security — to allow Côte d'Ivoire once again to ensure that local elections, representing the two final steps in the Ivorian election cycle begun in 2007, are held successfully.

The Ivorian Government takes this opportunity to convey to you once again its hearty thanks for the effective support provided by UNOCI to Côte d'Ivoire, as well as the assurances of its highest consideration.

(*Signed*) Jeannot **Kouadio-Ahoussou**